

In the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method of producing coke for metallurgy comprising blending a plurality of raw coals to form a coal blend and carbonizing the coal blend in a coke oven, wherein the coal blend consists of 60~95 wt% of medium coking coal having a content of inert component of not less than 30%, a middle coalification degree and low fluidity, and 5~40 wt% of a high coalification hard coking coal and/or a high coalification medium coking coal having a coalification degree higher than that of the middle coalification degree and low fluidity medium coking coal is used as a coal charged into the coke oven.

2. (Previously Presented) A method of producing coke for metallurgy according to claim 1, wherein the medium coking coal of middle coalification degree and low fluidity has an equilibrium moisture content of not less than 3.5%.

3. (Previously Presented) A method of producing coke for metallurgy according to claim 1 or 2, wherein one or more coals having a mean reflectance (R_0) as a coalification degree of 0.9~1.1 and a maximum fluidity (MF) as a coking property of not more than 3.0 are used as the medium coking coal of middle coalification degree and low fluidity.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method of producing coke for metallurgy comprising blending a plurality of raw coals to form a coal blend and carbonizing the coal blend in a coke oven, wherein the coal blend consists of 60~95 wt% of medium coking coal having a content of inert component of not less than 30%, a middle coalification degree and low fluidity, and 5~40 wt% of a middle-high fluidity hard coking coal and/or a middle-high fluidity medium coking coal having a maximum fluidity MF larger than that of the [medium] middle coalification degree and low fluidity medium coking coal.

6. (Previously Presented) A method of producing coke for metallurgy according to claim 1, wherein the high coalification hard coking coal and medium coking coal are coals having a mean reflectance (R_0) as the coalification degree of not less than 1.3.

7. (Previously Presented) A method of producing coke for metallurgy according to claim 5, wherein the middle-high fluidity hard coking coal and medium coking coal are coals having a maximum fluidity (MF) of not less than 3.0.

8. (Previously Presented) A method of producing coke for metallurgy according to claim 1, wherein the coke as a product has a tumbler strength (TI_6) as a strength of not less than 83%.